

Message Text

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12
ACTION EUR-12

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TAGS: PFOR, EGEN, IR, TU
SUBJ: VISIT OF PRESIDENT KORUTURK TO IRAN

REF: A. TEHRAN 5396; B. ANKARA 4486

1. MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICIALS HAVE PROVIDED FOLLOWING
COMMENTS REGARDING POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF
RECENT VISIT OF PRESIDENT KORUTURK TO TEHRAN.

2. COMMENTING ON THE POLITICAL ASPECTS OF THE VISIT
MFA MIDDLE EAST DIRECTOR CELILOGLU EMPHASIZED THAT A
GOOD ATMOSPHERE HAD BEEN CREATED FOR POLITICAL COOPERATION.
THE SHAH AND PRESIDENT KORUTURK HAD DISCUSSED SUCH BROAD
TOPICS AS DETENTE, THE U.S. ARMS EMBARGO AGAINST TURKEY,
CYPRUS, AND THE MIDDLE EAST, AND HAD FOUND THEMSELVES IN
ACCORD. THE RECENT IRANIAN-IRAQI AGREEMENT HAD MADE IT
EASIER FOR TURKEY TO SUPPORT IRAN POLITICALLY, HE SAID, WHILE
THE SHAH HAD AFFIRMED THAT IRAN WOULD SUPPORT TURKEY "RIGHT
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OR WRONG."

CELILOGLU ALSO SAID THAT THE PRESIDENTIAL VISIT TO TEHRAN PROBABLY WOULD BE FOLLOWED BY A SIMILAR VISIT TO ISLAMABAD IN OCTOBER OR NOVEMBER, AFTER WHICH A TURKEY-IRAN-PAKISTAN SUMMIT MEETING MIGHT BE HELD.

3. NURES, FOREIGN MINISTRY DEPUTY DIRECTOR BILATERAL ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, SAID EARLIER VISIT TO IRANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER KHALATBARY TO ANKARA IN 1974 AND TURKISH THEN FOREIGN MINISTER ESENBEL TO TEHRAN IN MARCH 1975 HAD LAID GROUNDWORK FOR ECONOMIC AGREEMENTS SIGNED DURING PRESIDENT KORUTURK'S VISIT. IN NUMBER OF RECENT CONTACTS IRANIAN SIDE HAD IMPRESSED UPON GOT THAT IF LATTER WISHED TO DEVELOP CLOSER ECONOMIC TIES IT WAS UP TO GOT TO DO ITS HOMEWORK AND MAKE SPECIFIC PROPOSALS. GOT HAD TAKEN THIS SERIOUSLY AND GIVEN CLOSE ATTENTION TO PREPARATION OF SPECIFIC PROPOSALS. NURES WENT TO TEHRAN EARLY IN MAY WITH A NUMBER OF DOCUMENTS TO BE CONSIDRED DURING KORUTURK'S VISIT. HE ACCOMPAINED MFA DIRECTOR GENERAL ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AMBASSADOR GOKMEN TO TEHRAN FIVE DAYS IN ADVANCE OF VISIT TO WORK OUT FINAL DETAILS.

4. AGREEMENT SINGED DURING THE KORUTURK VISIT PREPARED THE WAY FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION IN VARIOUS AREAS. SOME PROPOSALS WILL BE DEVELOPED IMMEDIATELY; OTHER PROPOSALS CAN BE INTRODUCED LATER. MAIN FRAMEWORK FOR TURKISH-IRANIAN COOPERATION WAS ESTABLISHED IN THE AGREEMENT FOR ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION SIGNED DURING THE VISIT. THIS PROVIDES A BASIS FOR COOPERATION TO BE DEVELOPED BY MEANS OF SPECIFIC PROPOSALS IN A NUMBER OF AREAS.

5. A SPECIFIC PROGRAM FOR ACTION IN THE NEAR FUTURE WAS CONTAINED IN THE JOINT PROTOCOLS. SOME OF THE MORE SIGNIFICANT AREAS OF COOPERATION THAT WERE AGREED UPON ARE

(A) IRAN AND TURKEY WILL SIGN A NEW TRANSIT AGREEMENT WITHIN TWO MONTHS (WITHOUT WAITING FOR RATIFICATION OF THE ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT). GOT WILL BEGIN NECESSARY IMPROVEMENTS IN PORT, RAIL, HIGHWAY, AND RAILROAD LINKS WITH IRAN. IRANIAN GOVERNMENT WILL PROVIDE LOANS TO FINANCE THE IMPOVEMENTS MADE WITHIN TURKEY;

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(B) GOVERNMENT OF IRAN WILL BE PREPARED TO MEET A PORTION OF TURKEY'S NEEDS FOR CRUDE PETROLEUM (NURES SAID THIS IS IMPORTANT TO THE GOT, WHICH IS ANXIOUS TO FURTHER DIVERSIFY ITS SOURCES OF CRUDE PETROLEUM);

(C) IRANIAN GOVERNMENT WILL CONSIDER POSSIBILITIES OF SUPPLYING ELECTRIC POWER TO REGIONS OF TURKEY NEAR THE BORDER. IRAN WILL ALSO CONSIDER LOANS TO FINANCE DEVELOP-

MENT OF HYDROELECTRIC PLANTS IN TURKEY;

(D) THE TWO COUNTRIES WILL DISCUSS POSSIBILITIES OF TRANSPORTATION OF IRANIAN NATURAL GAS ACROSS TURKEY TO CONSUMER COUNTRIES IN THE WEST (NURES SAID THAT THE CURRENT BELGIAN-AMERICAN NATURAL GAS PIPELINE PROPOSAL WAS NEITHER INCLUDED NOR EXCLUDED FROM THIS ASPECT OF THE AGREEMENT. THAT IS, THE TURKISH-IRANIAN UNDERSTANDING ON THIS IS QUITE GENERAL AND WHAT MAY BE COVERED IS LEFT TO BE WORKED OUT);

(E) GOT GAVE THE GOI A LIST OF DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN TURKEY FOR WHICH FOREIGN FINANCING (LOANS) IS SOUGHT. IN SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSIONS THE IRANIAN SIDE WILL LET THE GOT KNOW WHAT IT MAY BE PREPARED TO DO. (NURES SAID THAT THE WAY WOULD BE OPENED FOR THE GOI TO INDICATE EITHER

(1) THAT IT WOULD BE PREPARED TO MAKE AVAILABLE A GLOBAL AMOUNT OF FINANCING WITH ALLOCATION AMONG SPECIFIC PROJECTS TO BE LEFT TO THE GOT OR

(2) THAT THE GOI COULD DESIGNATE THE SPECIFIC PROJECTS THAT IT WISHED TO FINANCE AND THE AMOUNT AVAILABLE FOR EACH);

(F) WITH REGARD TO CREDIT TERMS, THE GOI HAD INDICATED THAT IT WOULD PROVIDE FINANCING FOR PROJECTS IN TURKEY AT THE MOST FAVORABLE TERMS. (NURES SAID THAT THE RATES WOULD VARY AMONG PROJECTS. THAT IS, THE GOI WOULD BE EXPECTED TO PROVIDE FINANCING AT VERY FAVORABLE RATES FOR IMPROVEMENT OF TRANSPORTATION LINKS IN TURKEY SERVING IRAN OR FOR INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS. MORE NORMAL COMMERCIAL RATES WOULD APPLY TO DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN TURKEY THAT COULD BE EXPECTED TO BE SELF-FINANCING.

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6. NURSSAID THAT SINCE PROVISION WAS MADE FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION IN A NUMBER OF AREAS THE SHAH AND PRESIDENT KORUTURK ALSO REACHED AGREEMENT TO CONSIDER THE ESTABLISHMENT OF JOINT DEFENSE INDUSTRIES. SPECIFIC ARRANGEMENTS WERE LEFT TO BE WORKED OUT. HOWEVER, MOST PROBABLY, IF ANYTHING DEVELOPS, THIS WILL BE IN THE FORM OF JOINT VENTURES TO BE ESTABLISHED IN EITHER COUNTRY TO SUPPLY THE NEEDS OF BOTH COUNTRIES FOR THE ITEMS IN QUESTION. PRESUMABLY, ANY INDUSTRIES ESTABLISHED IN TURKEY WOULD BE FOR THE PRODUCTION OF ITEMS THAT TURKEY CAN BEST PRODUCE AND VICE VERSA.
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